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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations

Letter dated 11 April 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith the statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba in connection with the acquittal of the notorious international terrorist Luis Posada Carriles, following his sham trial in the United States of America (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex issued as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 107 and 117 and as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Pedro Núñez Mosquera
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Annex to the letter dated 11 April 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cuba

Havana, 9 April 2011

On the afternoon of 8 April 2011, the sham trial that began 13 weeks ago in El Paso, Texas, came to an end when terrorist Luis Posada Carriles was acquitted of all immigration charges against him.

For all who have followed this terrorist's sinister career and his ties to successive United States Administrations, the Federal Bureau of Intelligence and the Central Intelligence Agency in his dirty war against Cuba, this is yet further proof of the support and protection that the United States authorities have traditionally extended to him.

Since Posada Carriles arrived in Florida after travelling from Islas Mujeres, Mexico, on board the vessel "Santrina", as was rightly denounced by Commander-in-Chief Fidel Castro, he has been, as he always was, under the tutelage and protection of the United States Government.

His trial, for lying to immigration authorities, and not for terrorism, is an insult to the people of Cuba and the families of the victims of Posada's actions.

The shameful verdict in El Paso is completely at odds with the counter-terrorism policy which the United States Government purportedly advocates and which has even resulted in military interventions in other nations and cost thousands of lives.

The United States Government is well aware of Posada Carriles' involvement in the downing of a Cubana de Aviación flight over Barbados in 1976, the bombings of Cuban tourist sites in 1997, and the planned assassination of the Commander-in-Chief in Panama in 2000, for which he was in fact convicted in that country.

The Government in Washington has all the evidence of the crimes committed by Posada, much of which was presented during the trial in El Paso.

It remains to be seen whether the United States Government will initiate new proceedings against Posada Carriles on terrorism charges, or extradite him to Venezuela, as was requested over five years ago by that country, and which it is legally bound to do under the international agreements to which it is a party, including United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 (2001), which was sponsored by the United States Government itself.

It is highly ironic that whereas Posada Carriles has been acquitted, five Cuban counter-terrorism fighters remain unjustly imprisoned in the United States for collecting information on the actions of terrorists of Cuban origin who, like Posada Carriles, freely walk the streets of Miami in total impunity.

Cuba reiterates that the United States Government is chiefly responsible for this outcome and calls on it to honour its obligations in the fight against terrorism, without hypocrisy or double standards.